

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 678

AN ACT

To amend chapter 10 of title 39, United States Code, to include postmasters and postmasters organizations in the process for the development and planning of certain policies, schedules, and programs, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Postmasters Equity
5 Act of 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. POSTMASTERS AND POSTMASTERS' ORGANIZA-**
 2 **TIONS.**

3 (a) PERCENTAGE REPRESENTATION REQUIRE-
 4 MENT.—The second sentence of section 1004(b) of title
 5 39, United States Code, is amended—

6 (1) by inserting “that an organization (other
 7 than an organization representing supervisors) rep-
 8 resents at least 20 percent of postmasters,” after
 9 “majority of supervisors,”; and

10 (2) by striking “supervisors)” and inserting
 11 “supervisors or postmasters)”.

12 (b) CONSULTATION AND OTHER RIGHTS.—Section
 13 1004 of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

14 (1) by redesignating subsection (h) as sub-
 15 section (i); and

16 (2) by inserting after subsection (g) the fol-
 17 lowing:

18 “(h)(1) In order to ensure that postmasters and post-
 19 masters’ organizations are afforded the same rights under
 20 this section as are afforded to supervisors and the super-
 21 visors’ organization, subsections (c) through (g) shall be
 22 applied with respect to postmasters and postmasters’
 23 organizations—

24 “(A) by substituting ‘postmasters’ organization’
 25 for ‘supervisors’ organization’ each place it appears;
 26 and

1 “(B) if 2 or more postmasters’ organizations
 2 exist, by treating such organizations as if they con-
 3 stituted a single organization, in accordance with
 4 such arrangements as such organizations shall mu-
 5 tually agree to.

6 “(2) If 2 or more postmasters’ organizations exist,
 7 such organizations shall, in the case of any factfinding
 8 panel convened at the request of such organizations (in
 9 accordance with paragraph (1)(B)), be jointly and sever-
 10 ally liable for the cost of such panel, apart from the por-
 11 tion to be borne by the Postal Service (as determined
 12 under subsection (f)(4)).”.

13 (c) DEFINITIONS.—Subsection (i) of section 1004 of
 14 title 39, United States Code (as so redesignated by sub-
 15 section (b)(1)) is amended—

16 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” after
 17 the semicolon;

18 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period and
 19 inserting a semicolon; and

20 (3) by adding after paragraph (2) the following:

21 “(3) ‘postmaster’ means an individual who is
 22 the manager in charge of the operations of a post
 23 office, with or without the assistance of subordinate
 24 managers or supervisors;

1 “(4) ‘postmasters’ organization’ means an orga-
 2 nization recognized by the Postal Service under sub-
 3 section (b) as representing at least 20 percent of
 4 postmasters; and

5 “(5) ‘members of the postmasters’ organization’
 6 shall be considered to mean employees of the Postal
 7 Service who are recognized under an agreement—

8 “(A) between the Postal Service and the
 9 postmasters’ organization as represented by the
 10 organization; or

11 “(B) in the circumstance described in sub-
 12 section (h)(1)(B), between the Postal Service
 13 and the postmasters’ organizations (acting in
 14 concert) as represented by either or any of the
 15 postmasters’ organizations involved.”.

16 (d) THRIFT ADVISORY COUNCIL NOT TO BE AF-
 17 FECTED.—For purposes of section 8473(b)(4) of title 5,
 18 United States Code—

19 (1) each of the 2 or more organizations referred
 20 to in section 1004(h)(1)(B) of title 39, United
 21 States Code (as amended by subsection (b)) shall be
 22 treated as a separate organization; and

23 (2) any determination of the number of individ-
 24 uals represented by each of those respective organi-

1 zations shall be made in a manner consistent with
2 the purposes of this subsection.

3 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

4 The amendments made by this section shall take ef-
5 fect 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

 Passed the Senate July 29 (legislative day, July 21),
2003.

 Attest:

Secretary.

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